

Special Education Advisory Council Meeting
April 12, 2019

**Special Education Advisory Council Members
(Members in bold were in attendance.)**

Parent Advocates	Special Education Directors/Leaders	Organizations
Sonya Lawrence-Parent Advocate	Dr. Michele Marinucci- Dir. Christina School District and DASEP President	Kendall Massett-DE Charter Network
Bill Doolittle-Parent Advocate	Dr. Lisa Lawson-Dir. Brandywine School District and DASEP VP	John Marinucci-DE School Boards Association
Dafne Carnright, Autism Delaware	Dr. Josette McCullough-Dir. Appoquinimink School District and DASEP Secretary	Mondaria Galloway-DSEA Member
Kristin Pidgeon, Down Syndrome Association	Dr. Sarah Celestin-Dir. Red Clay School District and DASEP Treasurer	Kristin Dwyer-DSEA Representative
Annalisa Ekblad, Autism Delaware	Dr. Jon Cooper-Dir. Colonial School District	Katheryn Herel, Parent Information Center of Delaware
Natika Hartock-Parent of a child with Autism	Dawn Alexander-Early Childhood Rep, DSEA Member	Rep. Kim Williams, Legislator
Antonikka Owens-Parent of a child with a hearing impairment	Dr. Vince Winterling-DE Autism Program	Tammy Croce, Delaware Association for School Administrators
Neil Ray-parent of a child with a developmental delay	Laurie Kettle-Rivera-DE School for Deaf	Deborah Boyer, UD PBS Project
Dr. Debbie Harrington-parent of a child with a visual impairment	Mark Campano-DE Statewide Programs	Mary Ann Mieczkowski-DE Dept. of Education
	Jill Scannell-Newark Charter School	Elisha Jenkins, Division for the Visually Impaired
		Wendy Strauss-Governor's Advisory Council for Exc. Citizens
		Sybil Baker- Governor's Advisory Council for Exc. Citizens

Public Attendees	X to make Public Comment	Public Attendees	X to make Public Comment
Erin Weaver, DVI		Dr. Rachael Rudinoff, Smyrna School District	
Debbie Postles, Christina School District		Dan Mize, DOE	
Jalee Pernol, DOE		Kim Walsh, DOE	
Theresa Bennett, DOE		Baljinder Kamboj (Bosky), DOE	
Michelle Jackson, DOE		Laura Manges, Milford School District	
Dale Matusevich, DOE	x	Sandra Miller, DVR	
Tracy Neugenbauer, DOE	x		

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Agenda Item	Discussion
Welcome	Bill Doolittle welcomed the council and explained the purpose of the meeting.
Group Updates/Discussions	<p>-Bill reports that legislature is moving but not as expeditious as hoped. There is a social emotional bill to add more school psychologists, counselors, and social workers in schools. There was group discussion about the limitations chosen or imposed on school counselors and the scope of their practice. To meet the needs of our students the increased staff would need to be limitless in the scope of their practice.</p> <p>-There is a bill to provide/increase Wellness Centers in high risk elementary schools.</p> <p>-The group discussed Universal Preschool. Related services units aren't generated for preschool students. There are limited typical peer models because typical peers pay tuition for Preschool. The group will have further discussion at next month's meeting.</p> <p>-Annalisa discussed a concern for students of transition age that qualify for DDDS services. Going forward families will have to choose between LTSS and the Life Span waiver. Thus families are tasked with deciding if their students will receive activities of daily living or supported employment. 100+ advocates turned out this week to discuss this concern.</p> <p>-There is a SAMSA Grant which is a collaboration of DOE/PBH/Kid's Dept. /UDEL that would provide 2 positions (a coordinator and clinical counselor) per county. The purpose is to integrate mental health into the state's MTSS framework. This is a five year grant that would employ an integrated model. The districts involved are Colonial, Indian River and Capital.</p> <p>-Dale advised they are looking for additional schools to participate in the SDLMI cohort for the 2019-2020 school year.</p>
Accommodations Guidelines	<p>There has been significant concern about student accommodations being deleted from TIDE/PAN and needing to be re-entered each year. Theresa Bennett explained that DOE imposed this practice because districts weren't updating student supports annually. The committee discussed the time and labor involved in re-entering the supports each year. There is a DTC meeting on June 21st. Invested stakeholders are invited to attend.</p>
IEPPlus Updates	<p>PowerSchool, a customized for Delaware platform is in initial testing. A leadership team comprised of staff from Appo, Cape, Smyrna, and NCCVT is involved with this process. User feedback, LEA testing and LEA input will be solicited prior to project finalization. An end date for rollout has not been</p>

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	<p>determined because the team wants to ensure the product is comprehensive and user-friendly.</p> <p>-The lack of parent and student feedback in this project is a concern expressed by Bill. Bill requests that (1) a test platform be rolled out for stakeholders, (2) an accommodations system be rolled into PowerSchool, and (3) that 619 be a consideration in the platform.</p> <p>-The group asked whether there is a plan to provide a platform or embed 504 plans. No decisions have been made to date, but this is a topic of conversation DOE.</p>
<p>Focus Area Updates</p> <p>(1) Statewide Supports for Autism and Low Incidence Disabilities—Mark</p>	<p>CFOs from different districts have been discussing creating capacity in the districts and reimbursements for services. According to the CSD CFO, we can't create a MOU if it isn't in code. A Board is needed for fee for services. We need to create educational services to meet capacity across a spectrum of services. We can start by taking what's in code now and working more parallel to collaborate across districts. It was discussed and proposed that 1 CFO from each county could pilot. There would be a menu of quality of services, targeted to student need.</p>
<p>Focus Area Updates</p> <p>(2) IEP Taskforce</p>	<p>Bill reviewed the suggestions from the prior IEP Taskforce. All were put into code as a result of SB 33, with the exception of funding for PIC and CLASI.</p>
<p>Public Comment</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Next Steps</p>	<p>The group will reconvene on May 17th 9:00am until 12:00pm at Middletown High School.</p> <p>The Agenda items include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome • Goal Area Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Statewide Program Update ◦ IEP Task Force Progress Update ◦ Mental Health Update • Committee Member General Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Early Childhood Updates/Info sharing/Legislation • Public Comment • Adjournment • State of BHC program in Delaware
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>Bill adjourned the meeting and dismissed the council at 11:51am</p>

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Goal Area	Goals	Sub-Group Members
Students	To increase the success of students with disabilities by improving their ability to become active, valued, and participating members of their community, today and in the future	Ed Emmett-Lead Lisa Lawson, Bill Doolittle, Sonya Lawrence, Wendy Strauss
Staff/ Partners	To have a highly engaged and effective workforce with appropriate values, skills, and knowledge for today - and tomorrow's - work.	Elisha Jenkins-Lead Mark Campano, Annalisa Ekbladh, Josette McCullough, Kristin Dwyer, Kathie Herel
Delivery Structure/ Systems	1) To make available the same array of evidence based practices and models of service deliveries regardless of a student's placement. 2) To modify delivery system to facilitate the achievement of other goals.	Mark Campano-Lead Vince Winterling, Dafne Carnright, Sarah Celestin, Jon Cooper, Kristin Pidgeon, Sonya Lawrence, Dawn Alexander
Parents / Families	To increase the engagement with parents and families as partners in collaboration to support their children at home and at school with access and knowledge of the resources they need.	Josette McCullough-Lead Annalisa Ekbach, Kristin Pidgeon, Kathie Herel
Resources	To acquire more resources as needed and maximize the efficiency in use of our existing resources	Kristin Dwyer-Lead Michele Marinucci, Teresa Avery, Laurie Kettle-Rivera, Mary Ann Mieczkowski
Policy/ Regulations	To add, delete, and modify policies and regulations to support our current and future goals and objectives.	Dafne Carnright-Lead John Marinucci, Mondaria Batchelor, Michele Marinucci, Kim Williams, Bill Doolittle, Mary Ann Mieczkowski, Dawn Alexander
Community	To increase the levels of support and collaboration through engagement and education.	Kendall Massett-Lead John Marinucci, Teresa Avery, Lisa Lawson, Elisha Jenkins